



WAGE RATES INDEXES : APRIL 1975 (PRELIMINARY)

MAIN FEATURES

- In April the weighted average minimum weekly wage rate for adult males increased by 15 cents and for adult females by 58 cents. This was the smallest increase for males since March 1973, when the increase was 14 cents.
- In the twelve months to April the indexes increased by 25 per cent for adult males and 37 per cent for adult females.
- Major award increases included in the April figures were
 - Increases for males and females in footwear manufacturing.
 - Increases for male and female clerks in Western Australia.
 - Movement toward full equal pay for female clerks in New South Wales.

EXPLANATORY NOTES

This statement contains figures of weighted average minimum weekly and hourly wage rates and index numbers for adult males and adult females for April 1975 and corresponding figures for some earlier months. More information on these statistics will appear later in the monthly bulletin *Wage Rates and Earnings* (Reference No. 6.16) which also contains explanatory notes covering definitions, scope of the statistics, etc.

2. The wage rates used in the compilation of the indexes are the lowest rates for a full week's work (excluding overtime) prescribed for particular occupations in awards or determinations of Federal or State industrial authorities; in collective agreements registered with these authorities; or in unregistered collective agreements where these are dominant in particular industries. Because the indexes are designed to measure movements in prescribed minimum rates of *wages* as distinct from *salaries*, those awards, etc. which relate solely or mainly to salary earners are excluded. Because of delays in the receipt of notification of changes in wage rates as well as retrospective changes to rates, figures for July 1973 and subsequent months are subject to revision. As such revisions are made they are published in the normal monthly tables of this statement.

3. The indexes are designed to measure trends in wage rates in current awards, etc. excluding the effects of changes in the relative importance of industries, awards and occupations. The weighted average wage rates shown in these tables are therefore indexes expressed in money terms, and do not purport to be actual current averages. Similarly, neither these weighted average wage rates nor the corresponding index numbers measure the relative levels of average current wage rates as between States or industries.

TABLE 1. - WEEKLY AND HOURLY WAGE RATES : ADULT MALES AND ADULT FEMALES
ALL INDUSTRY GROUPS, AUSTRALIA (a)

Weighted average minimum weekly rates payable for a full week's work (excluding overtime), as prescribed in awards, determinations and collective agreements; weighted average minimum hourly rates payable; and index numbers of wage rates.

End of	Adult males (b)					Adult females (c)				
	Weekly wage rates			Hourly wage rates		Weekly wage rates			Hourly wage rates	
	Wage rates \$	Annual change(d) %	Index Nos. (1954 = 100) (e)	Wage rates (cents)	Index Nos. (1954 = 100) (e)	Wage rates \$	Annual change(d) %	Index Nos. (1954 = 100) (e)	Wage rates (cents)	Index Nos. (1954 = 100) (e)
1974 -										
April	85.36	23.6	302.2	213.50	301.8	70.00	30.3	351.6	176.44	351.7
May	93.33	27.3	330.5	232.64	328.8	77.18	32.2	387.7	194.54	387.8
June	95.16	27.8	336.9	237.32	335.4	80.63	37.0	405.0	203.24	405.1
July	97.11	29.7	343.8	242.30	342.5	83.53	40.3	419.6	210.56	419.7
August	97.78	29.3	346.2	244.00	344.9	86.27	44.0	433.3	217.47	433.5
September	101.84	34.0	360.6	254.43	359.6	88.28	45.5	443.4	222.52	443.5
October	103.61	35.5	366.9	258.96	366.0	89.81	45.1	451.1	226.40	451.3
November	104.42	35.5	369.7	261.02	368.9	90.27	42.7	453.4	227.54	453.5
December	105.00	35.2	371.8	262.51	371.0	91.34	40.2	458.8	230.25	458.9
1975 -										
January	105.22	34.2	372.6	263.08	371.8	92.61	39.6	465.2	233.44	465.3
February	105.46	34.0	373.4	263.68	372.7	93.48	40.1	469.6	235.64	469.7
March	106.53	33.8	377.2	266.44	376.6	95.48	42.6	479.6	240.67	479.7
April	106.68	25.0	377.7	266.82	377.1	96.06	37.1	482.5	242.14	482.6

(a) Figures subject to revision. See explanatory notes above. (b) Excludes rural industry. Hourly rates also exclude shipping and stevedoring. The former is not included in the wage rates index and for the latter definite particulars for the computation of hourly wage rates are not available. (c) Excludes rural industry; mining and quarrying; and building and construction. (d) Percentage change over the same month of the previous year. These percentages may fluctuate from month to month owing to the timing of significant award changes. (e) Base : Weighted average wage rate, Australia, year 1954 = 100.

TABLE 2. - WEEKLY WAGE RATES : ADULT MALES, INDUSTRY GROUPS, 30 APRIL 1975 (a)

Weighted average minimum weekly rates payable for a full week's work (excluding overtime), as prescribed in awards, determinations and collective agreements; and index numbers of wage rates.

Industry group	Wage rates (\$)							Annual change (b) %	Index Nos. (Base 1954 = 100) (c)
	N.S.W.	Vic.	Qld	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	Australia	Australia	Australia
Mining and quarrying (d)	131.44	106.49	128.64	103.49	100.01	114.00	123.01	20.9	435.6
Manufacturing -									
Engineering, metals, vehicles, etc.	98.23	103.76	110.64	101.97	97.34	103.82	101.42	22.4	359.1
Textiles, clothing and footwear	98.24	98.07	100.45	96.53	99.88	93.94	98.13	27.9	347.5
Food, drink and tobacco	104.28	102.02	102.70	98.99	99.43	101.44	102.56	26.6	363.1
Sawmilling, furniture, etc.	104.28	98.88	103.81	99.88	98.64	99.29	101.78	26.2	360.4
Paper, printing, etc.	106.84	111.96	114.66	106.51	108.42	107.82	109.34	26.1	387.2
Other manufacturing	101.12	103.21	105.91	103.63	98.67	97.67	102.19	26.4	361.8
All manufacturing groups	100.37	102.89	106.76	101.82	98.77	101.91	101.95	24.7	361.0
Building and construction	113.03	120.83(e)	112.26	116.43	106.48	108.65	114.33	28.0	404.8
Railway services	100.13	95.85	114.22	100.27	91.12	101.49	101.94	21.3	360.9
Road and air transport	112.75	105.14	104.54	104.57	103.51	108.00	108.16	25.5	383.0
Shipping and stevedoring (f)	120.50	120.38	114.23	114.09	121.51	117.26	118.53	25.1	419.7
Communication	132.13	132.60	131.67	130.96	132.34	128.49	131.99	17.5	467.4
Wholesale and retail trade	106.75	106.78	107.10	103.88	101.19	109.45	106.13	27.2	375.8
Public authority (n.e.i.) and community and business services	107.48	104.51	114.38	99.52	100.58	117.62	106.80	25.1	378.2
Amusement, hotels, personal service, etc.	102.97	100.15	101.94	97.63	94.95	95.43	100.73	29.9	356.7
All industry groups (g)	106.47	106.61	110.66	105.39	101.84	106.87	106.68	25.0	377.7

(a) Figures subject to revision. See explanatory notes on page 1. (b) Percentage change over the same month of the previous year. These percentages may fluctuate from month to month owing to the timing of significant award changes. (c) Base : Weighted average weekly wage rate, Australia, year 1954 = 100. (d) For mining, wage rates used are those prescribed for the principal mining centres and include lead bonuses, etc. (e) See NOTE below. (f) Includes wage rates (and value of keep) for occupations in the coastal shipping service, other than masters, officers and engineers. (g) Excludes rural industry.

NOTE. The weekly rates used in the index for occupations specified in the National Building Trades Construction Award include the weekly base rate of pay, the special allowance and the industry allowance. The wage rate for building and construction in Queensland for March 1975, previously published as \$110.54, should have been \$112.26.

TABLE 3. - WEEKLY WAGE RATES : ADULT FEMALES, INDUSTRY GROUPS, 30 APRIL 1975 (a)

Weighted average minimum weekly rates payable for a full week's work (excluding overtime), as prescribed in awards, determinations and collective agreements; and index numbers of wage rates.

Industry group	Wage rates (\$)							Annual change (b) %	Index Nos. (Base 1954 = 100) (c)
	N.S.W.	Vic.	Qld	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	Australia	Australia	Australia
Manufacturing									
Engineering, metals, vehicles, etc.	97.96	97.77	96.24	92.19	92.02	99.49	97.07	32.5	487.6
Textiles, clothing and footwear	90.20	87.91	88.32	87.77	90.71	83.86	88.81	38.9	446.1
Food, drink and tobacco	99.60	97.25	95.03	90.40	79.98	94.91	95.71	45.7	480.8
Other manufacturing	95.64	94.65	97.41	88.99	91.22	94.32	94.85	40.0	476.4
All manufacturing groups	94.22	91.43	92.63	89.94	88.53	90.50	92.50	38.8	464.6
Transport and communication	100.43	101.80	106.58	103.16	99.56	109.84	102.18	31.6	513.3
Wholesale and retail trade	103.34	101.84	101.59	96.82	98.74	100.96	101.67	41.4	510.7
Public authority (n.e.i.) and community and business services	93.28	99.04	103.34	91.37	93.43	98.77	96.40	24.9	484.2
Amusement, hotels, personal service, etc.	97.91	92.50	93.88	90.17	89.36	89.37	94.68	35.1	475.6
All industry groups (d)	97.17	94.90	98.31	93.25	94.01	95.48	96.06	37.1	482.5

(a) Figures subject to revision. See explanatory notes on page 1. (b) Percentage change over the same month of the previous year. These percentages may fluctuate from month to month owing to the timing of significant award changes. (c) Base : Weighted average weekly wage rate, Australia, year 1954 = 100. (d) Excludes rural industry; mining and quarrying; and building and construction.

TABLE 4. — WEEKLY WAGE RATES : ADULT MALES AND ADULT FEMALES, ALL GROUPS (a)(\$)

Weighted average minimum weekly rates payable for a full week's work (excluding overtime), as prescribed in awards, determinations and collective agreements.

End of —	N.S.W.	Vic.	Qld	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	Australia		
							Federal awards, etc.	State awards, etc.	All awards, etc.
ADULT MALES (b)									
1974 —									
April	86.42	85.69	85.26	83.03	81.84	83.97	87.19	83.36	85.36
May	94.10	92.73	95.18	91.81	89.52	93.90	94.90	91.62	93.33
June	95.43	95.60	96.89	93.49	90.46	95.30	96.67	93.51	95.16
July	97.07	98.13	99.09	94.83	92.37	96.76	97.96	96.18	97.11
August	97.45	98.81	100.60	95.90	92.69	97.20	98.55	96.95	97.78
September	101.53	102.46	105.92	100.03	95.93	100.69	103.97	99.52	101.84
October	103.33	104.03	107.93	101.43	98.54	102.22	104.67	102.45	103.61
November	104.25	104.71	108.17	102.28	99.69	104.25	105.25	103.51	104.42
December	104.56	105.13	109.15	103.07	101.03	105.55	105.55	104.39	105.00
1975 —									
January	104.69	105.40	109.45	103.35	101.40	105.85	105.83	104.56	105.22
February	105.06	105.46	109.88	103.40	101.48	105.91	105.86	105.02	105.46
March	106.39	106.43	110.42	105.26	101.55	106.77	108.25	104.35	106.53
April	106.47	106.61	110.66	105.39	101.84	106.87	108.40	104.51	106.68
ADULT FEMALES (c)									
1974 —									
April	71.75	69.00	69.87	67.74	67.27	65.77	69.14	70.74	70.00
May	81.26	74.66	74.09	73.02	73.69	74.40	75.42	78.70	77.18
June	82.72	80.84	76.96	78.00	75.41	76.30	78.37	82.59	80.63
July	86.51	82.93	80.31	79.43	77.88	78.41	79.07	87.40	83.53
August	88.68	85.80	85.95	82.04	79.30	79.55	83.45	88.72	86.27
September	90.17	87.52	89.28	84.08	83.64	83.62	86.10	90.16	88.28
October	91.81	89.28	89.45	85.70	86.04	84.25	86.32	92.84	89.81
November	92.17	89.60	89.74	86.47	87.25	86.45	86.96	93.14	90.27
December	92.89	89.82	91.87	91.09	87.60	91.96	87.60	94.59	91.34
1975 —									
January	93.13	91.82	94.26	91.79	90.74	93.67	88.01	96.59	92.61
February	94.52	91.92	96.28	92.02	91.36	93.84	88.06	98.19	93.48
March	96.43	94.49	97.95	93.14	92.37	95.48	91.97	98.52	95.48
April	97.17	94.90	98.31	93.25	94.01	95.48	92.40	99.23	96.06

(a) Figures subject to revision. See explanatory notes on page 1. (b) Excludes rural industry. (c) Excludes rural industry; mining and quarrying; and building and construction.

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